

Docket No.



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Tetsuya HASHIMOTO, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/046,287

GAU: 2612

FILED: January 16, 2002

EXAMINER:

FOR: DIGITAL CAMERA WHICH DETECTS A CONNECTION TO AN EXTERNAL DEVICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE/RELATED CASE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

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**REFERENCES**

- The applicant(s) wish to make of record the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed references are attached, where required, as are either statements of relevancy or any readily available English translations of pertinent portions of any non-English language references.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**RELATED CASES**

- Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- A check is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

**CERTIFICATION**

- Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

**DEPOSIT ACCOUNT**

- Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

- Reference AA USP 5,111,299 to Aoki et al. discloses a still video camera in which connection to an external monitor is detected by a connection detector mating switch, with detection of the closing of the switch causing the camera to be switched from a record or erase mode of operation to a playback mode of operation. There is no disclosure of any connection of the camera to a computer, a communication mode of operation for communication with a computer, detection of any signal from a computer or switching the mode of operation in response to detection of a signal from a computer.
- Reference AB USP 5,231,501 to Sakai discloses a still video camera provided with an adapter for converting image data to a standard format for transmission to a computer.
- Reference AC USP 5,473,370 to Moronaga et al. discloses an electronic still video camera having internal and external memory and connectors for an external playback apparatus or external display.
- Reference AD USP 5,479,206 to Ueno et al. discloses an electronic camera which is connected to a computer. No record or playback mode selection switches are shown on the camera.
- Reference AE USP 5,534,921 to Sawanobori discloses an electronic camera which detects connection to a display device and in response employs the image memory of the display device to store image data that will be processed for storage on a recording medium.
- Reference AF USP 5,539,535 to Aizawa et al. discloses an electronic still camera having a connector for connection to a personal computer. The camera has an interlock function which prevents access to the camera memory by the computer during either recording to or reproduction from the camera memory. Otherwise, the camera is temporarily switched to transfer data to or from the computer and then automatically switched back to the selected camera operating mode to resume normal recording or reproduction operation of the camera.
- Reference AG USP 5,648,816 to Wakui discloses an electronic still camera having an internal memory and an external memory which preferentially records image data in the external memory in response to detection of connection of the external memory.
- Reference AH USP 5,717,496 to Satoh et al. discloses an electronic still camera with a connector for connection to either a personal computer or modem.

STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

- Reference AI USP 5,903,700 to Fukushima discloses a camera connected to a recording/reproducing apparatus in which information relating to the operation of the camera is automatically set in the recording/reproducing apparatus upon connection of the camera.
- Reference AJ USP 6,151,067 to Suemoto et al. discloses a video camera whose functions are controlled based upon the nature of connected accessories.
- Reference AO JP 3213066 to Terada discloses an electronic camera including an interlock which prevents operation of an image pickup switch in response to detection of connection of the camera to an external device.
- Reference AP JP 4298171 to Hino discloses an electronic camera for use with an adapter in which connection of the camera to the adapter is detected and causes record and reproduction changeover switches to be switched to connect recording and reproduction circuits of the camera to adapter side recording processing and reproducing processing circuits respectively.
- Reference AW The Apple QuickTake 100 (or 150) digital camera has a serial connector for connection to a computer. The connector has a switch. The camera is switched from a picture taking mode to a communication mode in response to the insertion of a connector cable, regardless of whether the cable is connected to a computer. There is no playback mode for playback of pictures on a display, and thus no selector for selecting a playback mode of operation.
- Reference AX The Kodak DCS 200 digital camera has a SCSI port for connection to a computer. There is no playback mode for playback of pictures on a display, and thus no selector for selecting a playback mode of operation. The camera functions independently from the computer, and pictures can be taken while the camera is connected to the computer (see, e.g., pages 4-51 and 5-38).



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Form PTO 1449 (Modified)		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY/SOCKET NO. 217053US2CONT	SERIAL NO. 10/046,287		
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT		APPLICANT		Tetsuya HASHIMOTO, et al.			
		FILING DATE January 16, 2002		GROUP 2612			
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5,111,299	05/05/92	H. AOKI, et al.			
	AB	5,231,501	07/27/93	N. SAKAI			
	AC	5,473,370	12/05/95	K. MORONAGA, et al.			
	AD	5,479,206	12/26/95	H. UENO, et al.			
	AE	5,534,921	07/09/96	K. SAWANOBORI			
	AF	5,539,535	07/23/96	I. AIZAWA, et al.			
	AG	5,648,816	07/15/97	Y. WAKUI			
	AH	5,717,496	02/10/98	Y. SATOH, et al.			
	AI	5,903,700	05/11/99	N. FUKUSHIMA			
	AJ	6,151,067	11/21/2000	K. SUEMOTO, et al.			
	AK						
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	TRANSLATION YES	NO	
	AO	3-213066	09/18/91	JAPAN (with English Abstract)		X	
	AP	4-298171	10/21/92	JAPAN (with English Abstract)		X	
	AQ						
	AR						
	AS						
	AT						
	AU						
	AV						
<b>OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)</b>							
	AW	Apple QuickTake 150, User's Guide for Macintosh, Chapter 1, pages 2-4; and Chapter 3, pages 23-24, 26-27, and 30-41					
	AX	User's Manual, KODAK Professional DCS 200 Digital Camera, Chapters 4, pages 4-1 to 4-51; and Chapter 5, pages 5-1 to 5-38					
	AY						
	AZ						
Examiner					Date Considered		

\*Examiner: Initial if reference is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.